CVPIDS SCHOOLE:

Wherein,

Yongmen and Maids may learne diuers sorts of new, witty, and Amorous Complements.

Newly written, and neuer any written before in the same kinde.

Complaine unto thy Loue with flattering Art,
For gentle words doe moue the hardest heart.

Printed at *London* by [illegible] *Purslow* for *Francis Grove* dwelling on Snow-hill, and are to be sold by *Stephen Powell* on [illegible] *Bridge*, 1631.

The Character and deſcription of a Complement.

IN the old time their Garments were plaine, and ſo were their words and meaning. But afterward, ſome more witty than the reſt (finding what power perſwaſion hath ouer the mind of man) inuented a new Art of words, called Complements; which is indeed nothing but an affable and courteous manner of ſpeech, and yet is now grown ſo neceſſary, that nothing can be done without them For men now a-dayes regard not vertuous qualities, but onely a pleaſingneſſe of nature and condition, ſo that hee that ſpeakes beſt, ſpeeds beſt, and ſhall be ſure to be preferred before the plaine meaning man. So that the neceſſity of theſe times doe enforce vs to learn the Art of Complements, which I will proue vnto you by particulars; and firſt in loue, hee that thinkes to win affection by telling a Maid in plaine tearmes that he loues her,

is much deceiued, for when ſhe heares you begin ſo plainely, ſhee will ſtart backe from you, and thinke you to bee ſome ignorant *Corydon* that know not *Cupid's* Language; when on the contrary, hee that can deliuer his minde in amorous words, doth ſeeme to keepe the keyes of their Maydenheads, of which hee can take poſſeſſion when he liſt, for their hearts are at his deuotion, while the other poore Louer that cannot expreſſe his mind in a Complemẽt, may pine away with ſorrow vnregarded, for he that loues moſt is many times neglected, and he that loues leaſt is oftentimes moſt reſpected. Therefore it behooues a Louer now a-dayes to vſe ſome Complement and Inſinuation to procure affectiõ for a man can preuaile in nothing without Complements; your friend will not thinke you his friend without you ſalute him with a Complement; you cannot inuite one home, nor entertaine him afterward without Complements; neither can you keepe company or bee ſociable without the mutuall enterchanging of complements. To conclude therefore, a Complement is the language of Gallants, the Conquerour of Maiden-heads, the quinteſſence of wit, the refiner of ſpeech, and neceſſary both in City and Country: For though the Country man be plaine, yet faire and courteous words will preuaile much with the goodnes of his nature; and this may be ſeene by the Fable

night

of *Mercury* and *Iupiter*, who wandring one night vpon the plaines, not knowing where to get a lodging. at laſt they came to the houſe of old *Baucis* and *Philemon*, an old married couple, who had long liued together in a poore Cottage; here *Iupiter* beginning to make his caſe known, the old wife *Baucis* began to ſcold, and told him plainly ſhe had no lodging for him till at laſt *Mercury* ſo farre preuailed with his cõplementall eloquence, that the good wife being raniſhed with his ſweet words, ſtraight opened the doore, lighted a Candle, and entertained them with all kindneſſe and courteſie; whereby you may ſee that ſuch is the power of Complements, that it breakes lockes, opens doores at mid-night, and will giue you acceſſe to the Miſtris of your heart, if you can but handſomely complement with the Maid, and come ouer her with melting language, onely you muſt remember to mingle ſome kiſſes, and line her Apron with Gold. and then you may bee ſure to obtaine your owne deſires. Beſides, as Complements are neceſſary in wooing, ſo you cannot counſell your friend to refraine from any vitious courſe, vnleſſe you vſe the Inſinuation of a Complement, for truth is ſo ſharpe, that it is diſpleaſing to all men, and ſeemes to grate their eares, if it be not ſweetned by ſome

pleaſant diſcourſe, and therefore when you are to doe the tendreſt office of a friend, which is to lay his ſhame and vice before him, there is nothing cangiue a more ready entrance to your words, or make him more willingly endure the ſharpneſſe of good counſell, than to begin in a louing and complementall manner. Seeing therefore that a Complement is ſo graceſull to the ſpeaker, ſo delightfull to the hearer, and ſo powerfull to winne affection, I hope Yongmen will imbrace and loue this Booke, which teacheth them how to obtaine their loue. And I hope yong Maids will lay it vnder their pillow, and read it when they goe to bed, ſince it will inſtruct them how to giue an anſwer to their amorous Suters. And ſo wiſhing to all Yongmen and Maids the accompliſhment of their deſires, I leaue theſe Complements to their peruſall.

A Com-

A Complement to the Reader.

Gentle Reader,

IT is some perswasion to read a Booke, when we dare say that the matter is new, and that there was never any thing written in the same kind: This wee may affirme of these Complements; and therefore having had no patterne of imitation to direct me, I hope (kind Reader) thou wilt so much the rather vouchsafe out of thy wonted kindnesse to grace them with thy favourable acceptance. Let their newnesse perswade thee to read, and then I doubt not but thou shalt find some amongst them so pleasant and delightfull, as will enduce thee to crowne my labours with thy free commendations. For as I am studious to benefit thee in any thing I may, so all the ayme of my desires is, to be thought worthy of thy liking and good opinion; which if thou grant mee, it shall oblige the service of my Pen to pleasure thee in this or any other kind. So I rest,

Thine as mine,

W. S.

The Author to the Reader.

WHen thou doſt chance to fall in loue
by power of Cupids *Bow,*
If thou theſe Complements doe proue,
their vertue thou ſhalt know.

Suppoſe thy Sweet-heart fled from thee,
as Daphne *from* Apollo,
Yet ſhee at laſt will changed bee,
if thou the chaſe doe follow.

And if theſe Complements thou vſe,
in fitting place and time,
The Maid that did thy loue refuſe,
ſhall vnto loue incline.

For though my ſelfe did neuer try,
yet I haue heard it ſaid,
Faire words and opportunity
will win the coyeſt Maid.

The

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A BOOKE OF COMPLEMENTS.

As there are diuers occaſions of ſpeech, ſo to haue variety of words and phraſes to expreſſe ones ſelfe, muſt needs be an ornament to the ſpeaker, and delightfull to the hearer. I haue therfore in this little Booke ſet down ſome formes of ſpeaking and anſwering, as followeth.

1. To wooe a Maid.

FAire Maid, the opportunity of time and place (none being by to ouer-heare vs) both inuite me to diſcouer my affection. For ſince nothing can be determined in loues affaires without conſent of both parties, I meane now to acquaint you with my deſire; which is, that ſince

ſince my heart hath made choice of you in the way of marriage, you would be pleaſed to recciue my loue with like affection: I know I might haue deliuered my minde in more choice and eloquent words, but beléeue me that loue is truest, which ſpeaks plainest. Now the reaſons that induce me to ſeeke your loue, are the vertuous qualities which adorne your minde; whoſe amiable and louely beauty makes my heart borne with a chaſt affection: Think not therefore that any foule deſires moue me to become a Suiter to you, nor am I haſty for marriage, for if you pleaſe to grant me your loue, I will ſtay your leaſure to appoint the day to conſummate our happineſſe. I am a young plead- uer at the Barre of affection, and therefore hope you will not diſcourage me in my firſt ſute, but rather ſince my cauſe is full of loue, will at laſt giue me a happy anſwer. Fearefull diſtruſt I know doth plead againſt me, and tels you how Maids haue beene deceiued by flattering men, who haue only made a Complement of loue to obtaine their owne deſires. But alas (faire Maid) condemne not all becauſe ſome haue bin falſe-hearted; for I dare promiſe for my ſelfe that the ſtreame of my affection flowing from your vertues ſhall euer keep a conſtant courſe. For the ſeale of your loue is ſo deeply impri-

ted

ted in my heart, that no time can weare it out; and therefore be assured, that till you cease to be vertuous, (which I know is impossible) I can never cease to love you. And thus (fairest Maid) I have disclosed the volume of my secret thoughts, wherein you may read my faire intents, which are onely to obtaine your love, and ioyne your heart nearer to mine by the inviolable Bond of marriage. Let me desire you therefore to unfold your lips, and give a favourable answer to my languishing hopes.

2. The Maids Answer.

SIr, your language is so full of chast affection, and delivered with so much moving passion, that had my fancy hitherto entertained a thought of love, you had certainely prevail'd over the weakness of a Maids resistance. But alas your love is a stranger to my heart; and therefore blame mee not if I dare not receive it as a known guest, till I have consulted with my own thoughts. Sudden consent is at times held dangerous, and is still followed by repentance. And therefore give me leave to consider your late motion, & I will study your satisfaction in my answer, which if it prove not to your content, yet it shall expect my thankfulnes for

that

loue you beare me. In the meane time I muſt diſmiſſe my ſelfe from your company, for I feare my Mother hath tooke notice of our conference, and ſo for my abrupt departure (if it be any breach of manners) I muſt reipe on your pardon.

3. To vrge a Sute the ſecond time.

THe next day repayring to the former place, I eſpied theſe two Louers lying on a Banke of Flowers, ſo that vſing the friendſhip of ſome buſhes to hide me, I lay downe and ſo vnſeene ouer-heard the former Suter renewing his ſute in theſe words: Faire Maid, now is the time that your promiſe hath engag'd you to giue an anſwer to my doubtfull feares; and now I am to receiue my ſentence from you, which I hope ſhall be full of comfort, ſince the greateſt offence wherewith you can charge my heartis only this, that I loue you; as therfore I came to this place full of hope to be made happy by your anſwer; ſo let me returne full of ioy by your free conſenting to my former motion. But what need I doubt or afflict my ſelfe with vaine feares? ſince I doe read ſome comfort in your chearefull countenance, which cannot like a cruell Iudge, ſmile and condemne at once.

My

My heart doth preſage that during my abſence, Cupid hath wrought in your heart a good opinion of me, which if you are unwilling to let your tongue confeſſe, leſt a bluſh ſhould ſpeed it ſelfe upon your cheeke; I am content to take your ſilence for my anſwer, ſo you will ſuffer mee according to the rules of love to interpret that ſilence for conſent. But ſtay, I ſee your lips are ready to prepare my doome, and therefore with patience I will expect my ſentence either of life or death, ſince it is in your power to raiſe me up or caſt me downe.

4. The Maids Anſwer.

SIr, I perceive the love that you profeſſe unto me, can receive no alteration by time; for I was in good hope that your two dayes abſence would have informed your iudgement, to place your love on ſome more worthy choice. But now ſince you are bent ſtill to proſecute your former ſute, and will not believe me when I tell you how much I want of thoſe vertues which you attribute to mee, I hope you will not blame mee if I conſent unto your former motion: For I beleeve you love me in the way of marriage, and in that aſſurance I grant you my love againe.

5. The

5. The Louers reply.

IT is a grant that makes me happy, and now let me ſeale my patent with this kiſſe, for you haue giuen mee your loue, and with it a little worlde of happineſſe: So that there remaines nothing but that we appoint our wedding day, which I will not haſten through any forward deſire of mine owne: For ſince I haue obtain'd your promiſe for marriage, I doe beleeue that our hearts are already married in heauen before a Congregation of Angels, which the Church ſhall but onely publiſh, and make knowne to the world. And ſo bidding adieu to vaine Complements, which only became me as a Suter, I hope I may now ſay you are mine as I am yours.

6. Maſter *Brainelеſſe* his wooing of Miſtris *Barbary*.

SWeet Miſtris Barbary, I beſeech you not to be barbarous vnto mee, for our Fathers haue made the match already, and I am now come to woos you. For I feele the mouth of my affection begin to water at thee, ſo that there muſt be ſome ſpeedy remedy found out to allay my burning heat, for if I looke but at your pretty foot, I feele my heart begin to riſe beneath

beneath my girdle, that sure I thinke thou hast some spirit about thee which doth bewitch me but I hope ere long you shall finde that I have a spirit too, which if it take after my mother it may be a divelish spirit for any thing I know, for I am sure she was an arrant shrow. But I lose no long discourses, and therefore I would entreat you,

That you would looke upon my wounded heart,
And with your favour helpe to ease my smart.

7. To excuse some inconsiderate speeches to a Gentlewoman.

IF formerly (sweet Phillis) I have throwne out any words inconsiderately which might move your anger, I beseech you pardon them, or if my tongue have wronged my heart by hasty speaking, attribute it to my rashnesse, not want of love: for I recant those words that have mov'd your soft disdaine, and since they cannot be reca'd, let your wisdome and sweetnesse of nature be shew'd in pardoning, as my folly was in offending: Let these words excuse my trespasse, for I know you are full of mercy & cannot long deny a pardon to him that sues for it with teares, though in a greater matter. But I see you turne away from me as if my words seeking to excuse my former

wozds did ſtill offend you, and therefoze I will beg ſome fauour from you in theſe few verſes which I made vpon this occaſion.

If that my tongue (faire Nymph) hath ſaid a-miſſe,
The ſame for pardon now a Suter is,
Or for it ſelfe if it too weakely pleads,
My lips on his behalfe thus interceeds;
Thus ſues, thus begs and begging wil not leaue
Till they a pardon ſeal'd from yours receiue;
And while my kiſſes beg, O happy me,
If I might alwayes thus a Begger be.

8. To welcome one home.

SIr, we haue often wiſht your company at home, & now you haue made vs happy in our deſires by your late return, to bid you welcome is but the cõmon road way of friendſhip, and therefoze I would faine ſpeake ſomething that might ſet foꝛth my loue moꝛe fully, but indeed I finde that all wozds are too meane to expreſſe the ioy that my heart conceiues at your happy returne. We were fearefull and ſolicitous, leſt ſome miſfoꝛtune might befall you in the way. But now we muſt confeſſe we owe a ſacrifice of thankes to heauen foꝛ protecting you in your iourney, and bringing you backe againe vnto vs, to whom I dare preſume you

you as welcome as health to the ſicke man, or a calme to the weather-beaten Mariner. To conclude, I could bid you welcome a thouſand times, and yet thinke thoſe welcomes to few: for ſince my loue to you is infinite, I muſt needs ſay you are infinitely welcome.

9. To perſwade by way of counſell.

SIr, were I worthy to counſel you, of whom I am more fitter to learne, then to admiſe, I would perſwade you to leaue off that ill company, to which I find you are too much addicted. For I profeſſe vnto you my counſell is directed to no other aime but your owne good, and to entreat you to be kinde vnto your ſelfe, and not to diſgrace your parentage and birth by frequenting ſuch baſe and ignoble company, who onely deſire to infect you with their vices, and who like ſhadowes onely depend vpon the Sun of your fortune, which if once it be darkned by the eclipſe of aduerſity, you ſhall finde that you, who before could number ſo many friends, ſhall then be left alone to deplore your owne folly, in thinking that thoſe could be friends vnto you, who are not friends vnto themſelues: for hauing by their owne inuiſh profuſion ſpent their owne eſtates all their purpoſe is now to winde you into the

ſame labyrynth of miſery, if there you haue already entred into the intricate waies of vice, let my counſell ſerue like Ariadnes clew of thread to guide your ſteps backe againe into the way of vertue, from which you haue to farre already wandred. But perhaps I ſhall obtaine your hatred, and by ſeeking to reclaime your errours ſhall thereby loſe your fauour, yet howeuer I ſhall expreſſe the duty and office of a friend; for while I ſee you run theſe wilde and ruinous courſes, though I am your friend, I will not be your flatterer.

10. To entreat a courteſie.

SIr, you ſhall oblige mee to you by adding one new fauour to your former courteſies, for ſo it is that my buſineſſe will miſcarry, vnleſſe I obtaine your aſſiſtance, which if you pleaſe to grant mee, you ſhall not onely binde me vnto you by the reſpects of duty and obſeruance, but ſhall alſo expreſſe your ſelfe the miracle of true friendſhip. I confeſſe I am vnwilling to be troubleſome vnto you, but yet ſuch is the commanding neceſſity of my affaires, that I muſt aſſume an vnwonted boldneſſe to petition your fauour and aſſiſtance in my behalfe.

11. The

11. The Answer.

SIr, you may command mee, for I am so wholly devoted to your service, that you may assure your selfe I can deny you no request which lyes within the circle or compasse of my power. For my heart is yours, and therefore what good I am able to doe you (either in this or any other kind) you may promise your selfe: being indeed glad to be imployed in any service that concernes you, so that (to the ability of a poore friend) I shall be ever ready to second your desires with my best endeavours. Command me therefore when you please, and you shall finde mee your ready servant, for I languish with a desire to doe you some courtesie that may expresse that friendship and love I owe you, which hath hitherto layne dead in me, for want of opportunity to demonstrate and make it evident to the eyes of the world by some friendly office.

12. To bid a Bride Good morrow.

MIstris Bride, I wish the hopes of love may be still multiplyed upon you. Nay, blush not, for it is no shame to be the Common wealth service, by bringing a race of Souldiers into the world. I know this night you

ſhall endeauor for it, but we muſt ſee the fruit hereafter. All that I wiſh is that your Huſband and you may liue together like a contenteo paire, happy in each other. What now? weeping? I hope you will not giue ſuch an example to the Maids, or ſo diſable your Bridegroome, as to ſhew any ſignes of griefe or ſorrow on the following morning to your Wedding cap. If you haue parted with a long preſerued top to night yet comfort your ſelfe in your loſſe, for there are many Maids would haue beene glad of your place, and thanke you to. But I haue no art in Complements, and therefore in a word, I wiſh you all top.

13. To bid the Bridgroome Good morrow.

MAſter Bridgroome, I muſt congratulate the hopes of marriage, and wiſh they may increaſe daily to both your comforts: you haue removed to night a happineſſe which my knowledge did neuer yet attaine at, therefore it is impoſſible for me to gheſſe it; however I doe not enuy, but wiſh you all happineſſe with your faire choice. And though by your heauy eye I diſcerne you haue not tooke your due of reſt to night, yet you may take it out the next; for I could wiſh my bed were troubled with ſuch fleas, on that condition I ſlept not theſe two

two nights. All that I can wish is this, that no fatall time, day, or houre, may produce a change or alteration in your affections. But that you may live like Turtle Doves, you loving in her, and she with mutuall delight making you the object of all her happinesse: that so your marriage may prove a merry-age.

14. At the first meeting of a Friend.

Sir, you are well met, and most happily return'd, for fame had given out a sinister report, that you were miscarried in your journey, but I am glad the old Proverb is true, That fame is often a lyer. I pray let a pint of Wine be the Mediatour to renew the bonds of our friendship; for I am even full of joy to behold you, and my heart would bid you welcom in better phrase, but that I want words to expresse the integrity and truth of my affection. I have forgot all this while to enquire of our friends health, my thoughts were so wholly busied to bid you welcome: But I hope Sir they are well.

15. The other friends answer.

Sir, your friends are all well, and are mindfull of you in the remembrance of their love. Neither am I lesse joyfull at our fortunate

meeting, which is a happineſſe I haue long wiſhed for, and though my tongue cannot interpret the inward ioy of my heart, yet I would not haue you thinke that ioye is leaſt, which hath leaſt expreſſion of it ſelfe. For a full veſſell yeelds no ſounde, and a heart full of affection, cannot ſo eaſily expreſſe it ſelfe in a ſmooth way of complements, in a word I am heartily glad to ſee you, and to ſay more were but to ſpeake the ſame in more words.

16. To preſent a gift to a Maid.

FAire Maid, I would deſire you to accept this ſmall Ring as an emblems of my affection, which like a circle ſhall be euer endleſſe. I know it is vnworthy your acceptance, yet haue out of thy graciouſneſſe of your humility to receiue this vnworthy pledge of that loue and ſeruice, which I ſhall euer giue you till time ſhall enable me to expreſſe my loue in ſome more worthy gift. And if at any time this toy doe chance to draw downe your eye vnto your finger, if you pleaſe to remember me thereby, and thinke on me who haue deuoted my ſelfe to your ſeruice, I ſhall thinke my ſelfe the leſſe vnhappy in my abſence; though indeed till I return againe, I ſhall be able to reliſh no taſte of comfort, ſince all my ioy is to enioy

enioy your company, but my businesse doth enforce mee away, so that leaving this with you as a memento of my affection, I take my leave with as sad a heart as ever Lover parted with his Mistris.

17. To bid a friend farewell.

SIr, I am so unwilling to be depriued of your sweet society, and to forgo the fruition of your good company, that my heart will hardly permit mee to take my leave of you, yet since the necessities of your occasions doth enforce vs to part, I can but wish you a prosperous iourney, and with my prayers daily sollicite heaven for your safe returne. I will not burthen your memory with seuerall commendations, but onely desire you to remember my loue and seruice in generall to all our friends in the Country. This is all I require of you, and since though unwilling we must endure your absence from vs, I will promise in the meane time to bee your Weather-man to pray for your happy iourney, and will onely keepe so much of my heart as may keep me aliue, the other halfe shal go with you. Now I see why death is called departing, for departing of friends is a short death; giue me

me your hand the ancient emblems of affection, and I pray be carefull of your selfe, since in your welfare, consists the welfare of all your friends. And so farewell.

18. To intreat a courtesie of a stranger.

Sir, though I am unknowne unto you, yet the report of your knowne courtesie, makes me bold to preferre a sute to your favourable consideration. Which if I might obtaine, I should thinke vertue had not quite forsaken the world, but that their lives such sparkes of goodnesse in your breast, as may be bold to enflame posterity with an emulation of your goodnesse: I beseech you therefore be not afraid to bee mee a courtesie because I am a stranger. For by how much you have lesse inducements to shew me any favour, you shall thereby make your vertue shine with more illustrious glory. I must confesse I have no great mans Letter to procure your liking and good opinion of me, yet since my desires are modest and such as you may grant with ease, I hope you will grant my request, in requitall whereof I will proclaime your nobleness and courtesie wheresoever I come, and will be sure to mention you alwaies in my praiers, who have with the eyes of pitty look't downe upon the necessi-

necessities of a stranger. But I will not vrge you with any further importunity, but leaue my suite to your consideration. Verbum sat bono, few words preuaile with good men in a good cause.

19. To aske a Fathers goodwill for marrying his Daughter.

SIr, it hath pleased your Daughter to bestow her affection vpon me, and now I must become a Suter to you for your goodwill and liking. For so farre she hath granted me her loue, if it be seconded by your good allowance. I would intreat you therefore be pleas'd to ratifie and establish by your free consent what the heauens haue already decreed. For our hearts are already married in heauen, and we lacke nothing now but your consent, which I hope I shall obtaine. and since we haue both been obedient in making you acquainted with our desires, I beseech you seeke not to crosse our loues, but giue vs both your blessing.

20. To begin a health.

GEntlemen, since wee are now vnable to commemorate our friend any other wey than by remembring them in a health. I am bold out of the ouerflowing of my loue to dedicate

dicate this health to the memory of our absent friends. I will fill it so full that a flie may drinke off it at the top, and will drinke it so cleerly off that a flie shal not be able to drink at the bottome. And thus Gentlemen I begin it, hoping that no man that honours his friend will refuse it, for I would haue the health in a circular orbe moue round about the table, till euery man hath had it: And so (as I said before) I begin this health, Ad salutem amicorum. To the health of all our friends, wishing them as full a measure of all happinesse, as this cup is full of wine. I hope you'l pledge me Gentlemen?

21. To promise to pledge it.

SIr, here's no man will refuse it. For my part I will continue the health, for I am bound to second it since tis in memory to our friends, and therfore I will pledge it though the glasse were so big, that the Moone might make a couer to it.

22. To desire to be excus'd.

GEntlemen, I must intreat your pardon, for I dare not drinke such healths, since I know I should lose my owne health by it. Besides I hold it a heathenish custome, and not

not becomming a Chriſtian. I ſhall therefore eſteeme it a courteſie in you to diſpence withmy pledging it, for to ſhew loue to our friends by wronging our ſelues, were a part of folly rather than friendſhip. To which purpoſe I haue written theſe verſes.

Tis an old rule now amongſt *Bacchus* traine,
That from his owne health drinking we refraine;
Yet now they doe begin healths to their friends,
Which with the loſſe of their owne health ſtriuends;
And thus while of our friends too much we make,
We loue our friends, but our owne ſelues we hate.

23. To acquaint one with a iourney.

I Am to ride this morning toward London, and if you pleaſe to command mee any ſeruice, I ſhall be carefull in the performance of it: or if you haue any thing to buy, pray let me be your ſteward, Ile buy it as cheape as I can, for it is a happineſſe to mee to haue any imployment from you. If therefore you haue any buſineſſe or cauſe to ſollicite, truſt me with it, and I will vſe the beſt diligence I can to effectuate your deſires, or if you pleaſe to command me any other ſeruice, you ſhall finde me your ready ſeruant.

24. To thanke one for a courteſie.

SIr, I muſt acknowledge my ſelfe indebted to you for your laſt courteſie, the remembrance

makes

makes mee your debtor till I can finde some opportunity of requitall; neither will I bee ungratefull for your last favour, but will returne it with interest when fortune shal enable me, in the meane time I would desire you to reckon mee in the number of those that are beholding to you, and for your former courtesies to take the payment of a friend in currant English thankes.

25. To excuse a friend in his absence.

SIr, it is the part of one friend to excuse another in his absence. and therefore I intreat you not bee offended with him till you know the truth, but to interpret all things to the best. For I know it would much grieve him to gaine your displeasure, and therefore let not your wisdome censure him in his absence, for I know he will cleare himselfe at his returne. Be pleas'd therefore to suspend your anger a-while, and let not your passion pronounce him guilty before you know the truth: for if you will wilfully condemne him, I must rise up in my friends defence, for however his enemies have incens'd you against him, I dare engage my selfe he is not guilty of those calumnious slanders which are heaped on him. Let me intreat you therefore not to

to giue credit to the reports of malicious informers, who can with eaſe defame and caſt aſperſions vpon the beſt men, but I would rather haue you thinke the beſt of him till you know the worſt, and then determine of as you finde cauſe. If hee deſerue it let him continue ſtill your friend, if not let him be wiped out of the number of your friends.

26. The Wooers Complement.

SWeet Maid, the Sunne hath almoſt gone his yeerely iourney about the world, ſince firſt I beheld the Sun of your beauty which hath ſo dazled my eyes, that I behold all other things as trifles in reſpect of thoſe glorious beames which do caſt themſelues from thence If therefore continuance of time may be any aſſurance of ſtedfaſtneſſe in loue, you muſt needs confeſſe that I haue long been a deuoted ſeruant to your perfections. Be pleaſed therefore now to accept that loue of mine, which my fond heart cannot conceale. you are the darling of my thoughts, the treaſure of my heart, the happineſſe of my life; neither would I liue indeed but that I hope in time by my true ſeruice and obedience to obtaine your fauour. Neither would I haue you thinke that I flatter you, for my tongue doth but interpret to my

my heart, and the heauens know with what a dew reuerence I honour you. If therefore my loue be grounded vpon vertuous desires, you ought to cherish it, but if I seeke your wrong by satisfaction of my owne desires, let me perish in your fauour, which is to me aboue all punishments. You are the Load-stone of my affection, your lipps are the moist Adamants that doe attract me, one touch from your hand hath power to reuiue the dead faculties of age. There is musicke in your voice, and a louelinesse in all your actions. Blame me not then for louing you, but blame your selfe for being so worthy of loue, and since your beauties haue wounded me, let your graciousnesse answer cure me by consenting to tye that holy knot of marriage, which I haue often vrg'd. Make me happy in your answer.

27. The Maids Answer.

SIr, as you are a friend to vertue I cherish your loue, and am perswaded you loue mee: but alas, wee Maids haue no power to giue away our selues without consent of Parents, neither can we dispose of our selues, or be liberall of our affections, till our Parents be acquainted with it. And therefore you must now become a Suter to my Father;

ther; his liking obtain'd, mine shall follow, and if you get his goodwill, my hand shall give you my heart in the Church before the whole Congregation. In the meane time rest assured you shall finde mee constant in affection, and therefore you need sollicite mee no further. I am yours.

28. The Wooers answer.

I Desire no more happinesse, for by your answer you have reviv'd my drooping heart, neither would I change my estate with rich Crœsus, since I value the obtaining of your love above the Empire and Dominion of the whole world. I doubt not but wee shall live and love together. And as for your Father, I hope he will grant us the priviledge due to all hearts, to love, and to enjoy, and I will shortly take some fit opportunity to sollicite his consent. In the interim, I must force my heart to take my leave of you, not daring to salute you, for feare one kisse should tempt me back againe, but tis no matter what we spare now wee will take out upon our Wedding Day. Farewell.

29. To inuite one home.

SIr, I haue often deſired your company at home, but yet could neuer be ſo happy to obtaine it. But now you ſhal not deny to grace my poore houſe with your preſence, ſince wee are bard by it, and to honour me ſo much as to let the ſtarre of your vertue ſhine within the ſphere of my houſe: for I dare promiſe, though entertainement be not worthy your inuitation, yet you ſhall bee as welcome as a friend can be to a friend.

30. To excuſe with thankes.

SIr, I deſire your pardon, for my buſineſſe will not permit me, otherwiſe you ſhould not intreat me twice if I could grant it without much hinderance to my ſelfe. I am ſorry to refuſe your kind inuitation but I will promiſe to viſite you ſhortly, and ſince it is your deſire I will be bold to call vpon you. At this time I am enforced to withſtand my owne happineſſe, by denying your free inuitation, but I hope you will excuſe me, and attribute it to my buſineſſe, not want of loue.

31. To

31. To deliver a Letter to a Lady.

MAdam, here's a Letter waits your pleaſure, and deſires to be preſented to your Ladiſhips hands, the Meſſenger told me that it was ſent from your humbleſt ſervant Mr T. C.

32. The Ladies anſwer to her waiting-Gentlewoman.

WHo bid you forſooth receive theſe amorous papers? I know 'tis lighter than a compliment, and it may be 'twas written in a Tavern, I will not open it till I mean to laugh, for 'twill make it my recreation after meales. But I pray be careful hereafter to receive no more, you know my minde, and now you cannot excuſe your ſelfe by ignorance.

33. The waiting Maids anſwer.

I ſhall obey your Ladiſhips commands, for I will not gaine your Ladiſhips diſpleaſure by receiving their Letters, though they ſhould tempt me with a ſhower of gold, I will

not offend wilfully, but will ſtudy in all things to preſerue your fauour, for it hath been hitherto the ayme of my deſires to continue my ſelfe in your Ladiſhips good liking, and I hope I ſhall neuer deſerue the contrary.

34. The Seruingman's wooing of *Suſan* a Chamber-maid.

SVſan, it is now three yeares ſince wee haue beene fellow-ſeruants together. During which time I haue receiued many courteſies from you, and beene inuited to many a Wacke Poſſet, which kindeneſſes of yours, though tending to no other end than to expreſſe your owne naturall goodneſſe, haue ſince inuited me to loue you. And now hauing both ſate out the fire, and our candle burning dimly, I thought this twylight would beſt become a lone Suite. For I proteſte vnto you Suſan, I loue you with as much affection as my heart can containe; and albeit we haue often fallen out about trifles, yet I did it but to try thy nature, wch I found to be haſty (as the beſt natures are) but not able to retain anger long, and therefore I hope you will forgiue what is paſt, & conſider my motion which tends to both our good. For is it not better to liue freely in the

the married ſtate of life, then to depend on ſervice, where every frowne is ready to caſt vs off the hinges? For my part Suſan, though the vnthriftineſſe of my friends did firſt compell me to vndertake a ſeruile life, yet I could neuer bring my heart to affect it, and I know you are of the ſame mind, for I haue heard you ſay, your father was a wealthy Farmer, who comming behinde hand with the world you were put forth to ſeruice, which kind of life I know muſt needs ſeeme tedious, and therefore I haue propounded a way, whereby wee may both liue a free and happy life. I know you will obiect the want of meanes to maintaine a charge or family. 'Tis true, but yet let vs not deſpaire of Gods bleſſings, for haue wee not ſeene many Couples, whoſe whole ſtocke could hardly purchaſe a wedding Ring, and a Licence, who yet afterward by their owne indeauours haue liu'd more contentedly than theſe great money matches, which ſeldome proſper; for where there is loue there all things thriue, but where there is debate there all things goe to wracke. Loue will ſupply the defects of any want, ſo that if you pleaſe to entertain my ſute with your kind acceptance, you ſhal not only free your ſelfe from the ſubiection of a ſeruant, but liue in the ſweet yoke of

And now Suſan, I entreat you to conſider theſe reaſons, which I could enlarge, but that I feare our candle would goe out, and therefore having thus rudely with little art, but much affection deſigned my mind, I hope you will make me happy by your anſwer.

35. *Suſans* Anſwer.

ROger, you are much miſtaken to interpret any courteſie of mine to proceed from loue though indeede I haue alwaies lou'd you as one ſeruant may loue another. But for other matters (as they ſay) I neuer ſo much as dream't of them, and therefore doe not dare to haue a ſute, for I haue ſomething elſe to doe than to thinke of marriage. It is a ſigne Roger you liue eaſily, for eaſe is the nurſe of ſinne, but if you ſat vp night by night ſtarching as I doe, & then roſe again as early in the morning, you would haue little minde to entertaine a thought of loue. And therefore hereafter buſie your ſelfe in ſome good imployment, and you ſee theſe idle fancies will baniſh of themſelues. But if by this meanes your deſires bee perſwaded I will conſider better of your motion, and this is all I can ſay at this time in anſwer to your ſute. And ſo farewell, for I heare my

Miſtris

Miſtris knocke above, and therefore I muſt be gone.

36. To deſire the Maid to ſpeak to the Miſtris.

SWeetheart, I know your long and faithfull ſervice hath indeer'd you into your Miſtreſſes opinion, ſo that ſhe repoſes ſome truſt and confidence in your words, and I know you are not ignorant of thoſe ſtrange times and ſeaſons when womens fancies are moſt apt to receive loues impreſſion. If therefore you would pleaſe to take ſome houre of aduantage to remember my ſute to your Miſtris and would but caſt forth ſome words that may ſtir affection in my behalfe, I would not prove vnthankefull. For though others haue ſolicited you in the ſame way, yet if you will promiſe me your good word, and aſſiſtance to preferre my ſute to your Miſtris, I will requite it to your owne deſire, in earneſt whereof I would intreat you to weare this Ring, and to be minefull of me in my abſence, that ſo at my next viſitation of your Miſtris I may find her more inclinable to my ſute. Farewell.

And now Susan, I entreat you to consider these reasons, which I could enlarge, but that I feare our candle would goe out, and therefore hauing thus rudely with little art, but much affection deliuered my mind, I hope you will make me happy by your answer.

35. *Susans* Answer.

ROger, you are much mistaken to interpret any courtesie of mine to proceed from loue though indeede I haue alwaies lou'd you as one seruant may loue another. But for other matters (as they say) I neuer so much as drem't of them, and therefore doe not vrge so vaine a sute, for I haue something else to doe than to thinke of marriage. It is a signe Roger you liue easily, for ease is the nurse of loue, but if you sat vp night by night starching as I doe, & then rose again as early in the morning, you would haue little minde to entertaine a thought of loue. And therefore hereafter busie your selfe in some good imployment, and you see these idle fancies wil vanish of themselues. But if by this meanes your desires bee not abated I will consider better of your motion, and this is all I can say at this time in answer to your sute. And so farewell, for I heare my

Mistris

Miſtris knocke about, and therefore I muſt be gone.

36. To deſire the Maid to ſpeak to the Miſtris.

SWeetheart, I know your long and faithfull ſervice hath indeer'd you into your Miſtreſſes opinion, ſo that ſhe repoſes ſome truſt and confidence in your words, and I know you are not ignorant of thoſe ſtrange times and ſeaſons when womens fancies are moſt apt to receive loues impreſſion. If therefore you would pleaſe to take ſome houre of aduantage to remember my ſute to your Miſtris and would but caſt forth ſome words that may ſtir affection in my behalfe, I would not proue vnthankefull. For though others haue ſolicited you in the ſame way, yet if you will promiſe me your good word, and aſſiſtance to preferre my ſute to your Miſtris, I will requite it to your owne deſire, in earneſt whereof I would intreat you to weare this Ring, and to be mindfull of me in my abſence, that ſo at my next viſitation of your Miſtris I may find her more inclinable to my ſute. Farewell.

37. To intreat lodging at a Gentlemans house.

SIr, being a ſtranger benighted and ſtray'd out of my way, and finding that the Village Townes affoyde no Inne or houſe of receipt, I would gladly be beholding to you for this nights lodging, till in the morning I may receive ſome better directions to proceed on my iourney.

38. The Gentlemans anſwer.

SIr, it is a courteſie that the lawes of hoſpitality bind mee to performe. I muſt confeſſe our Townes is but ill prouided for the entertainment of ſtrangers, and therefore if you pleaſe to accept of ſuch a meane lodging as my houſe can affoyde, you ſhall be welcome.

39. A bold Complement to a Widdow.

SWeet widdow, I come not with a tedious complement to win affection. But I come with loue and youth which are more graceſull qualities in a Widdowes eyes. I am indeed a ponger brother, and haue no land to indare me

me into your liking, yet if you please (as they say) to cast away your selfe upon a man, I hope I shall be able to delight you with the sweet contents of love. Thinke it not therefore the worst charity to make a man, and raise the fortunes of a younger Brother, who only wants some of that white and red earth which lies by you so uncomfortably. Come, I will not be put backe or daunted, nor will I take your no for a denyall; for I know however you widdowes seeme to dislike our boldnesse, yet in your owne thoughts you doe commend us, when like good Souldiers comming up bravely, wee make an assault upon your lips, and scorn to retire although your eyes shot frowns against us. Thus far (sweet Widdow) I have bin bold with you, and I hope not more bold than welcome, yet lest I should presume too far know therefore in plaine termes, that albeit I am the last that have sollicited you for affection yet do I not last affect you, but should be glad of such a Christer as your selfe, who by your good counsell may reclaime me from the wilde unshaped errors of my youth, for being once married I will fall from all loose affection, striving night & day to make my selfe worthy of ỹ title of your husband, which I hope you will grant me, that so our wooing may conclude in a wedding

40. The

40. The Widdowes anſwer.

ALas Sir, the remembrance of my late husband, whose memory doth ever draw teares from my eyes; his memory (I say) had so farre once prevailed, and was so deeply implanted in me, that I resolved never to make a second choice. But yet I know not how moved rather out of pitty to your selfe, than any desire of my own, I am willing to second your desires in any lawfull affection. For I see you can speake movingly, and I must confesse you have wrought more upon me than many others, whom I could put back at any time by telling them with a serious countenance that I never meant to marry. But I see you will have no answer but in the right kinde, and therefore (as I said before) in pitty of your youth, hoping you will be a comfort to my age, and prove a true husband, I am content to make you master of my selfe and mine. But still I say in pitty of your youth, for tis your youth and young blood that I love.

41. To wooe a Country Maid.

FAire Maid, the opportunity of occasion, and the strong bent of my affection (which will either

ſither breake out in words or breake my heart) compell me to take this ſhort time to diſcouer my deſires vnto you. The firſt time that I beheld you was, when you were reaping your fathers corne, and then it ſeem'd to mee that the golden eares did euen bend vnto your hands and your ſtraw hat became you better than if you had worne a Coronet of ſtars. But indeed what need you weare a ſtarry crowne, whoſe eyes are ſtarres, and haue ſo powerful an influence vpon the beholders, that euer ſince that day my heart hath not beene mine owne but yours, and my thoughts haue beene wholly giuen ouer to think of nothing but the obtaining your loue, for which I am come now to entreat, begge, and ſue, knowing that you cannot bee vnmercifull; for if you will ſaue your fathers Lambs out of danger when they fall into a pit, if ſuch trifling things can moue your compaſſion, I hope you will a little commiſerate the dolours and extreame paſſions of a Louer. For I perſwade you to nothing but that which is the end of your comming into this world, and that is marriage, for how ſoon would the world decay and come to nothing if it were not preſerv'd by marriage, ſince therfore nature hath giuen you ſo large perfections, ſhe lookes that you ſhould requite her againe

gaine, and not to let your beauties wither on your cheeke, but to bestow your youth and beauty on him who will honor you both in age and sickneſſe. For know this, that beauty is a fading flower which cannot long continue, and as Fryer Bacons Head spoke, Time is, Time was, Time is past; so Maids haue their seuerall times & seasons, for at 15. they are in their prime, and then Time is. at 30. Time was, and at 40. Time is past. But I need not I hope vſe so many circumſtances in words to come to the full point of marriage, ſince you your ſelf cannot be ignorant of my affection. For when you went to milke, I haue like a faint shadow followed you, and when you went to fold your fathers sheep, I haue holpt you, all which were ſeruices of that loue and duty which my heart doth owe you. Be pleaſed therefore now out of the gentleneſſe of your nature, and by that ſoft compaſſion which should dwel in a Maidens heart, to grant me your loue, and then I ſhal eſteem my ſelfe more happy than the greateſt Monarch in the world. I beſeech you doe not deny me, but let one chaſt kiſſe ſtrike a bargaine betweene vs, that ſo we may tie the true Louers knot of marriage.

42. The Country Maids anſwer.

Sir, I had thought you would not haue mocked mee by laying beauty to my charge, for

for I have often beheld my selfe in the running streame, but I wish I could never behold such a dicker of beauty as you'l ascribe vnto mee, you compare my eyes to starres, and I know not what. Alas, Sir, doe you thinke we country Maids are such harmelesse innocent fooles that we are taken with fine faire words which you Courtiers call complements? alas no, you may goe vse them to Ladies; yet I know not how methinkes your words come from you with such a fervency of affection that I could finde in my heart to answer you in your owne phrase, for you must know we country Maids can compliment as well as you: know therefore that if your former words doe proceed out of a chaste desire to marry mee, and if your heart hath been so long a servant of mine I will not detaine your wages, but will pay you love for love againe, and that I know is the payment that you expect. But I pray beare not that you overcome me with a compliment though indeed I like your complements very well, which being set forth with a languishing behaviour did become you so well, that I am content to yeeld my selfe to your disposing, and to make my selfe an example to shew what great power a Compliment delivered in due time and place may have

over

over a Maids affection, and so without further ceremony, pray let our banes be bidden, let the Fidlers be hired to play upon our wedding day, and let the Maids strew the way to Church with flowers, for your Complement hath overcome me, and so I leave you.

FINIS.